

## HABITS OF MYGALE IN CONFINEMENT.

Mr. Henry C. McCook has published (Proc. Acad. nat. sci. of Philadelphia for 1887) some notes on the habits of *Mygale hentzii* while kept in confinement in Philadelphia. Mr. McCook has had the best success in keeping spiders by feeding them well in summer and giving them but little during the winter, but lets them have all the water they want at all seasons. One *Mygale* lived over five years, and finally died soon after moulting, though it had moulted safely several times in previous years. The last moult happened in spring, before the spider had much to eat, and for this reason, probably, it was too weak to recover from the effects. One of Mr. McCook's mygales lost several limbs while moulting. He says "two of the legs refused to separate from the skin, and after a prolonged struggle they were broken off at the coxae and remained within the moult. One foot of another leg shared the same fate." This moult occurred in the spring. In August the spider moulted again, and by this time the lost limbs had grown again, complete but a little smaller than before.

The digging of these mygales was done with the fore legs and palpi. The dirt was not scratched up by the feet or kicked backward but gathered into balls between the mandibles, palpi and feet and carried away from the hole.

*James H. Emerton.*

## PROCEEDINGS OF SOCIETIES.

### CAMBRIDGE ENTOMOLOGICAL CLUB.

8 JAN. 1886.—The 116th meeting. [Continued from p. 44.]

*Abstract of the Secretary's Report on the Library, 8 Jan. 1886.* By G: Dimmock.

The circumstances which led the secretary to assume the duties of librarian are given in detail. . . .

The accession book has been written up to the end of 1885 and enumerates 1355 acces-

sions. Of these 164 belong properly to the year 1885. . . .

The books of the library have been classified by subjects according to the Dewey decimal classification. . . . Only a small portion of the books are cataloged on slips. . . . Some of the separates and smaller pamphlets have been furnished with stiff manilla-paper covers, and many more separates need to be thus protected.

The rules concerning the loan of books remain the same as they were in 1882, when they were printed in our annual reports.

12 FEB. 1886.—The 117th meeting was held at 61 Sacramento St., Cambridge, 12 Feb. 1886. In the absence of the president, Mr. T. W. Harris was chosen chairman.

Mr. Roland Hayward remarked on the dilatation of the first three joints of the middle tarsi of some of our species of *Dytiscus*. He asked if the patellae of the middle tarsi are functional or not.

Dr. G: Dimmock showed some specimens of *chrysomelidae* to illustrate the subject of color-variation, and made remarks upon experiments which he intended to try during the coming summer in order to produce color-varieties in insects.

12 MAR. 1886.—The 118th meeting was held at 61 Sacramento St., Cambridge, 12 March, 1886. In the absence of the president Prof. W: Trelease was elected chairman.

The report of the treasurer, Mr. B: P. Mann, for the year 1885 was read by the secretary, and having already received the approval of the auditing committee, was approved.

[An abstract of this report is appended to the report of this meeting.]

Nominations nos. 134-135 were acted upon and the following persons elected to active membership: 134. Philip Stanley Abbott, of Cambridge. 135. Frank Sedgwick Child, of Cambridge.

Nominations nos. 136-142, all for active membership, were presented, as follows: 136. Prof. T: J. Burrill, of Champaign, Ill.,

by Messrs. S. A. Forbes and W: Trelease. 137. W: H. Garman, of Champaign, Ill., by Messrs. Forbes and G: Dimmock. 138. Clarence M. Weed, of Champaign, Ill., by Messrs. Forbes and G: H. Parker. 139. Charles A. Hart, of Champaign, Ill., by Messrs. Forbes and F. S. Child. 140. T: F. Hunt, of Champaign, Ill., by Messrs. Forbes and R. Hayward. 141. Prof. C: Robertson, of Carlinville, Ill., by Messrs. Forbes and S: H. Scudder. 142. C: W: Woodworth, of Champaign, Ill., by Messrs. Forbes and Dimmock.

The receipt of an invitation to attend the celebration of the fiftieth anniversary of the Verein für naturkunde, in Cassel, Germany, was announced, and Messrs. S: H. Scudder and R. Hayward were appointed a committee to draft suitable resolutions.

Mr. S: H. Scudder remarked on a pre-historic beetle. Borings made by this insect had been found in juniper, which had been discovered in beds of the inter-glacial period. The species belongs to the *scolytidae*, probably to the subfamily *hybragini*, as defined by Leconte and Horn. The paper was illustrated by drawings of the borings of this species, and those of existing *scolytidae*.

Dr. G: Dimmock showed a female of *Hippodamia convergens*, which had hibernated in a cold cellar. The beetle had copulated but once, and that in the fall. Dr. Dimmock gave statistics of the eggs which this beetle had laid, and which proved fertile, and made further remarks upon rearing *coccinellidae*.

Mr. S: H. Scudder made some remarks on *Melittia cucurbitae* and a related species. [See PSYCHE, July-Sept. 1885, v. 4, p. 303-304.]

*Abstract of Treasurer's Report, 12 Mar. '86.* By B: Pickman Mann.

Open accounts have been kept separately with each volume of PSYCHE, or the years to which each corresponds. The account for volume one shows a deficit of \$16.05; that of volume two, \$239.59; that for the years 1880 to 1882, inclusive, a balance on hand of \$34.59; that of volume four, not yet completed, already shows a deficit of \$150.66. The principal of the permanent publication fund

amounts to \$386.39. [The Treasurer's report was duly audited and approved.]

#### ENTOMOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF LONDON.

(Continued from v. 4, p. 314.)

1 Oct. 1884.—Mr. R. McLachlan exhibited a specimen of *neomopteridae*, which was captured by Mr. J. J. Walker at Coquimbo. This was remarkable as hitherto no species of this family had been known to occur in America. This new species appeared to come nearest to *Brachystoma* Rambur.

Baron C: R. Osten Sacken communicated "Facts concerning the importation or non-importation of diptera into distant countries."

3 Dec. 1884.—Baron C: R. Osten Sacken was elected an honorary member of the society.

Mr. A. S. Olliff exhibited *Aciphus singularis*, recently described in the "Entomologist's monthly magazine," from Brazil. It had the appearance of one of the *staphylinidae*, but was a *Cucujus* strongly resembling *Diagrypnodes wakefieldii*, from New Zealand.

Mr. C: O. Waterhouse exhibited a specimen of *Fulodis finchi* from Karachi, a buprestid of nearly twice the size of the largest hitherto known species, and recently described by him in the "Annals and magazine of natural history."

Rev. Leonard Blomfield contributed a note on a beetle taken near Bath, England, which proved to be *Monohammus titillator*. It was taken by a man engaged in chopping wood that proved to be North American pine, and was the second specimen that had been taken alive in England.

Mr. H. J. S. Pryer contributed a paper "On two remarkable cases of mimicry from Elopura, British North Borneo, with remarks on Mr. George Lewis' paper read before the society on 4th October 1882" . . . [Several cases of mimicry were cited by Messrs. Butler and Waterhouse in discussing Mr. Pryer's paper; these citations are given in detail in the Proceedings.]—Abstracted and compiled from the *Trans. Entom. soc. Lond.*, 1884; Proc.